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## *Afghan rebels may be getting American arms*

Washington (AP)—Defense Secretary Harold Brown acknowledged yesterday that rebels in Afghanistan may be receiving arms supplied to Pakistan by the United States, but said it is the Soviets who are causing "the deaths and the turmoil."

Asked whether arms for Afghan rebels fighting Soviet troops are being financed by the Central Intelligence Agency, Mr. Brown replied that he would not discuss CIA funding, either to confirm or deny it.

But, he said, "there are Afghan insurgents, there are Afghan refugees who do go back and forth across the border and they may very well get arms from Pakistan."

"But it is the Soviet invasion, the Soviet involvement, the Soviet intervention that causes the deaths and the turmoil," Mr. Brown said.

He made the comments in defending President Carter's \$158.7 billion defense budget request before the House Budget Committee.

Mr. Brown said the United States wants a neutral Afghanistan but dismissed Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev's proposal that all sides renounce "outside interference." The secretary said the Soviets cannot "expect us to respond as though we are comparable participants in this."